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Tariffs & Embargo Powers

Tariffs and embargo powers are tools used by governments to regulate international trade and protect national interests. Here's a brief overview:

Tariffs

Tariffs are taxes imposed on imported goods and services. They are used to:

- **Protect Domestic Industries**: By making imported goods more expensive, tariffs encourage consumers to buy domestic products.

- **Generate Revenue**: Tariffs can be a source of government revenue.

- **Retaliate Against Unfair Trade Practices**: Governments may impose tariffs in response to unfair trade practices by other countries.

Embargo Powers

Embargoes are government-imposed restrictions on trade with specific countries or regions. They are used to:

- **Enforce International Law**: Embargoes can be used to enforce international laws and norms.
- **Protect National Security**: Embargoes can prevent the export of sensitive technologies or materials that could threaten national security.

- **Apply Economic Pressure**: Embargoes can be used to apply economic pressure on countries to change their policies or behavior.

Legal Framework

In the United States, the authority to impose tariffs and embargoes is shared between Congress and the President. The Constitution grants Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, but over time, Congress has delegated some of this authority to the President. For example, the **International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA)** allows the President to impose embargoes and sanctions in response to national emergencies.